

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND CONSERVATION**

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HELENA, MONTANA 59620-1601**DECISION MEMO  
ACTIONS OF A SPECIAL NATURE  
Clean.Drain.Dry. in the Upper Gallatin  
January 26, 2022  
Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance**

Actions that are primarily social or economic in nature and that do not otherwise affect the human environment.

The Upper Gallatin Watershed, (45.2618, -111.3080)  
Gallatin

**PURPOSE AND NEED**

Clean.Drain.Dry. in the Upper Gallatin is an educational campaign working to address and mitigate the spread of AIS in the Gallatin Watershed. While our primary focus is on the Gallatin Watershed, residents and visitors frequent the Madison river also, thus our efforts impact that watershed as well. This project seeks to promote Clean.Drain.Dry. via ads in local and regional media outlets, video promotion, Highway 191 signs, an educational trailer, and unique promotional items that will be disseminated at local establishments, shops, and community events.

Fortunately, aquatic invaders have yet to be found in the Upper Gallatin Watershed, but curly leaf pondweed has been found in the lower reaches. In the Madison River, curly leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, the parasite that causes proliferative kidney disease, and New Zealand mud snails have been identified. Spread of AIS or pathogens by boat trailers, fishing gear, waders, or other equipment could have a catastrophic effect on the fisheries, watershed health, and economy of the area. Prevention is the most effective way to stop the spread of AIS, thus we are requesting support to continue our cooperative and proactive outreach effort.

The Alliance will work closely with MTFWP to increase brand awareness and ensure education and outreach materials produced for Clean.Drain.Dry. in the Upper Gallatin are line with and support existing AIS messaging while keeping the imaging and graphics fresh. The location and reach of our efforts will be significant, and we are confident that brand awareness will be increased.

The goal of the project is to reach residents and the increasing number of visitors with the Clean.Drain.Dry message. Now more than ever, as people turn to the outdoors for respite and relief, we are reminded of how important our water resources are. Many in our community resoundingly support conservation efforts, acknowledging that our unparalleled natural resources are intimately linked to the health and prosperity of our community. Our goal is to remind those with a strong conservation ethic that Clean.Drain.Dry. matters, and to educate those not familiar with clean recreation practices to get on board.

Success will be evaluated by the quality of informative material produced, the number of people who see the highway signs and print ads, engagement with social media promotions, and response by the public to the message.

DNRC will approve the grant to provide funding for the Clean.Drain.Dry. in the Upper Gallatin Project.

DNRC is not required to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for actions that qualify for a CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (ARM 36.17.614) or justified by a PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW; or are ACTIONS OF A SPECIAL NATURE (ARM 36.2.523(5)); or are EMERGENCIES (ARM 36.2.539). These actions are subject to review for EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES that would require an EA or an EIS.

### **ACTIONS OF SPECIAL NATURE (ARM 36.2.523)**

- ☐ Administrative actions: routine, clerical or similar functions of a department, including but not limited to administrative procurement, contracts for consulting services, and personnel actions.
- ☐ Minor repairs, operations, or maintenance of existing equipment or facilities.
- ☐ Investigation and enforcement: data collection, inspection of facilities or enforcement of environmental standards.
- ☐ Ministerial actions: actions in which the agency exercises no discretion, but rather acts upon a given state of facts in a prescribed manner.
- ☒ Actions that are primarily social or economic in nature and that do not otherwise affect the human environment.

### **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION/PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW**

- ☐ Categorical Exclusion (CE) refers to a type of action which does not individually, collectively, or cumulatively require an EA or EIS, as determined by rulemaking or programmatic review adopted by the agency, unless extraordinary circumstances, as defined by rulemaking or programmatic review, occur. This project qualifies under ARM 36.17.614 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS.
- ☐ Programmatic review means an analysis (EIS or EA) of the impacts on the quality of the human environment of related actions, programs, or policies. DNRC – CARDD does not have any programmatic reviews completed at the time of this template.

The project listed above meets the definition of Actions of a Special Nature, Categorical Exclusion or Programmatic Review including specified conditions and Extraordinary Circumstances

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<b>Approved By:</b>	<b>Name:</b> Mark Bostrom <b>Title:</b> CARD Division Administrator <b>Signature:</b> <i>Mark W Bostrom</i> <b>Date:</b> 2/10/2022   7:55:36 PM MST
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